

M A R C H

Tammy's

# Smoke Signals

Quarterly Prayer Letter



## *Cherokee women reaching out - Tsali Care Nursing Center ministry/Evening visitation*

Siyo!

Hello from Cherokee,

The ministry programs for the fall and winter have been going well but have been very slow due to all the snow we had this year. They will come to a close in March and April, so that I can concentrate on the summer short-term ministry. In this prayer letter I have many important items that I would like you to pray about. Thank you for your prayers and support that make this ministry possible.

For His Glory,  
Tammy

***Women's Bible Study ministry  
- Acquoni Baptist Church and  
Yellowhill Baptist Church***



We are still growing. Both of the women's bible studies continue to go very well in each church. The women are growing and being challenged each day as they apply the truths they are learning to their every day life and to their culture. The two classes (total of 10 women) taught at Acquoni Baptist Church are lead by Jean Bushyhead and me. I also continue to lead another study group for seven of the women of Yellowhill Baptist Church. Please pray for the women of each study group and for Jean and I as we lead these groups each week. Also pray that God would open the hearts of the Cherokee men and give them a desire to be disciplined in God's grace.

Every other Sunday, since December, the women who attend the evening bible studies at Acquoni and I have lead a mini Sunday morning program for the residents of Tsali Care our local nursing home. We usually have from 12 - 18 women with one or two men who might slip in just to hear what's going on. I lead the devotional and members of our group pray and read scripture. June Smith leads our songs both in English and Cherokee. Each Sunday we are all blessed and encouraged by our time with the residents.

Due to the weather and time of year starting the evening visitation program has been quite difficult. We did manage two community visits that went very well. Every year the short-term mission teams continue to reach a large number of the Cherokee some are believers and attend some of the local churches but many are not. Please pray for God to give me insight on how to approach this ministry in the fall and how to get the local churches involved in assisting with this great need.

## *Cherokee are getting more involved with the summer ministry program*

I have been praying for the last five years that God would lead more Cherokee to become directly involved in the short-term ministry. He has been answering this prayer year after year. It began with the Smith family serving as grounds keepers of the Goose Creek Camp. Sam Otter and June Smith volunteering to sit with the teams and share Cherokee culture. Then with Tina, Maria, Sadie, Mary Jane and her nephews helping out by preparing Cherokee food like Indian fry bread and bean bread. This year we will continue with Cherokee teen mentorship program in which the summer interns will lead. Please pray for this program and for the girls God would have us mentor this year. The other answer to prayer is Rita Wildcatt, a Cherokee woman, who will assist Bettye Redd and the other volunteers in the kitchen. Rita is a member of the Acquoni Baptist Church and she also attends the new disciples class I teach. She resides in the Birdtown Community in the Fisher Branch Housing project with her son and grandson. Please pray for Rita as she serves along side us this summer. And keep praying for God to lead more Cherokee to become involved in all of our ministry programs.



### ***Summer Interns:***

We have been blessed with not one but three interns this summer. These young women will assist the short-term ministry in a number of ways, especially with the Cherokee Mentorship program for teen girls. Please pray for Emily Nelms, Rebecca Brillhart and Anna Kathryn Hall as they raise their support and plan for the ministry here. I'll share more about them in my next prayer letter.



Rita Wildcatt

### **MTW Short-term Summer program June 5 – August 7, 2010:**

This summer is going to be a busy one. We have around 800 people signed up to come to Cherokee. Along with our usual ministries programs we are continuing with some special ones and adding a few new ministries:

June 5<sup>th</sup> – Summer ministry begins Regular VBS programs in the community and construction begin

June 19 – 25 – Sunshine Days Cherokee Camp Week

June 28 – July 1<sup>st</sup> – Financial Planning Seminar at Acquoni Baptist Church

July 12 – 15<sup>th</sup> – Men's Seminar at Acquoni Baptist Church

July 19 – 23 – Community Soccer Camp Ministry

August 7<sup>th</sup> – Summer ministry ends

Please pray for all the ministry programs the teams will be leading this summer. Pray for the summer staff, volunteers and especially for Mike Peifer, the project administrator, and Bettye Redd the kitchen coordinator. Pray that God would strengthen us each day and we would always keep him as the focus of what we do. And don't forget the Cherokee staff of the various facilities we minister to each week.

## *Other Ministry News:*

**Sewing Ministry** - For several summers the Collins Presbyterian Church has been leading a sewing ministry for the women of Cherokee. This summer the team is no longer able to return and continue this ministry. Their prayer has always been that another team or the women of Acquoni Baptist would one day have a heart for such a ministry and lead it when they could not return. Please pray for the women of Acquoni as they pray about leading the sewing ministry themselves this summer. They all enjoyed getting to know the Collins team and would like us to pray for another team to come and join them in this ministry either this summer or next year. If you are interested in getting your church involved in such a ministry please contact me.

**The Native American DVD** that some of you participated in last summer is still in the approval process. We hope it will be available by fall of this year. As soon as we know when it will be released we'll let you know.

### *MTW Native American Council established in December*

In December MTW developed a new council for their Native American ministries. This council was developed as an advisory/support system for Marcus Toole and myself, full-time missionaries serving on Native American Reservations. This council will also look closely at the status of each native project and see how we can improve and advance the current ministries we are currently doing, as well as a number of other things. Members of the council are: Brian Derringer (acting director), Opal Hardgrove, Jack Beal, Marcus Toole and myself. Both Marcus and I are very encouraged by the establishment of this new council and look forward what we can accomplish for the tribes we now serve.

### **As far as me.....**

My family is doing well and continues to be a great support to me and the ministry God has called me to. As far as my health some weeks and months are good, and then I will have a minor flare up which usually zaps me of my energy and not sleeping is the worst thing for me. So please continue pray for my health and against the spiritual battles that arise as I disciple these "strong Native women," and for God's guidance and direction as I plan and schedule both the Cherokee and Lummi ministries programs this summer.



## *Lummi Project News:*

We've got a big group going to Lummi this summer, enough interest for two weeks. The other great news is that a new PCA church has been established in the Bellingham area, which is located right outside the reservation. This has been a prayer of the faithful teams who have been coming to Lummi for a number of years that a PCA work would be developed to assist with the follow-up of those we minister to. The pastor of the church has expressed a desire to learn more about the work MTW has been doing these past 14 summers and is also considering having a small team from their church join us in July. Please pray for Dave Krueger and me as we meet with them to discuss this and many other things in April.

Hope you like the new prayer letter. A big THANK YOU goes to my son Kevin for helping his Mom out in her time of need. Great work son!

### **So keep in touch!**

Email: [tammyj12000@yahoo.com](mailto:tammyj12000@yahoo.com)

Snail mail: PO Box 550, Whittier, NC 28789

For donations:

Account #013652

PO Box 116284

Atlanta, GA 30368-6284